

HORRY COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES
BOARD WORK SESSION/SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING
District Office
June 6, 2016

The following were in attendance:

Board of Education

Joe DeFeo, Chairman	Holly Heniford	Kathy Richardson
David Cox	Neil James	Pam Timms
Jeffrey Garland	Janice Morreale	Sherrie Todd
Janet Graham	John Poston	Ray Winters

Horry County Schools' Staff

Mary Anderson	John Gardner	Boone Myrick
Edward Boyd	Kenny Generette	Vann Pennell
Daryl Brown	Bo Gorcesky	Ben Prince
Dottie Brown	Roger Gray	Ashley Purcell
Joe Burch	Ben Hardee	Lucas Richardson
Chuck Capps	Christine Holmes	Angela Rush
Carolyn Chestnut	Charles Hucks, Jr.	Rhonda Snowden
Dennis Devorick	H. T. Lee	Judy Stall
Peter DiLeo	Sarah Luquis	Melissa Westbury
Kim Floyd	Rick Maxey	Mark Wolfe

As required by SC Law 30-4-80, local news media were informed of the date, time, place, and agenda of this meeting. Copies of the agenda were posted at the District Office and distributed to schools for posting.

1. OPENING JUNE 6, 2016, AT 6:00 P.M. – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman DeFeo called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m.

A. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Poston offered the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Approval of Agenda

Under Discussion, a new Item "E. North Myrtle Beach High School Construction Update," will be added and the Superintendent's Report will become, "Item F."

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox and seconded by Ms. Heniford to approve the agenda with the change as noted. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

C. Approval of Minutes – May 23, 2016

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Winters to approve the May 23, 2016, Board minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously and the minutes were approved. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

INTRODUCTION OF CANDIDATES SEEKING ELECTION TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mr. DeFeo called for any candidates who were present and who were seeking election to the Board of Education to introduce themselves. The following persons announced themselves:

Patricia Gore Milley, District 8

David Cox, District 4

John Poston, District 8

Jeffrey Garland, District 11

2. RECOGNITIONS

A. St. James High School Percussion

St. James High School's Band was recognized for having won the Winter Percussion Scholastic Novice State Championship.

B. St. James High School Color Guard

St. James High School's Winter Guard was recognized for having won the Scholastic Region A State Championship.

3. PUBLIC HEARING – SUPERINTENDENT'S COMPREHENSIVE BUDGET FOR 2016-17

A. Public Comments on Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget for 2016-17

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Winters and seconded by Mr. Garland to enter into a Public Hearing to allow public comments on the Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget for 2016-17. The motion carried and the Chairperson called for comments. No one came forward to comment on the Superintendent's Comprehensive Budget for 2016-17.

4. ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING AND CONVENE BOARD WORK SESSION

There being no comments, Chairman DeFeo called for the adjournment of the Public Hearing and to convene the Board Work Session.

5. DISCUSSION

A. Alternative Proposal for New Carolina Forest Attendance Area School

Mr. Winters brought forward a proposal to make the new Carolina Forest area middle school a grade 7-8 school rather than grade 6-8 school and take the existing Ocean Bay Middle School and make it a grade 5-6 school. The five-year projected enrollment figures were provided. Mr. Winters shared that the elementary schools in the Carolina Forest area are at or reaching capacity and if we do not do something in regard to attendance in those schools, we are going to have excessive capacity issues. We are already looking at adding two portable units at Carolina Forest Elementary and eight portable units at River Oaks Elementary. Mr. Winters added that with this plan, we can alleviate overcrowding at five schools rather

than just two schools. The expense related to this plan would be nominal and from a wear and tear view of the high school facilities, this plan would keep it as it is now rather than servicing three athletic programs at the high school. Mr. Winters also added that we have two new principals that need to know by July 1 what their roles will be at the new school and how to plan for the new school.

Mr. DeFeo stated that we will have a Board meeting on June 20. He would like for information to be shared on what it will cost if we move forward with this recommendation and what it will cost if we do not move forward with this recommendation. Mr. DeFeo added that this can be included on the business agenda, but feels this information needs to be shared as quickly as possible.

Mr. Poston shared thoughts about going to this particular model for the Carolina Forest area schools, i.e., on the lower end of District 8, which is Forest Lake and Myrtle Beach National areas, that drive for buses and for car riders to Ocean Bay gets worse every year. Mr. Poston was hoping for some relief on the drive with the busing and bus ride times with the new middle school. The ride from the upper end of the Ocean Bay attendance area, especially if anything happens on Highway 501 or Carolina Forest Boulevard, is long. Another thought as we get larger with the 7th and 8th grade class in the middle school structure, we will be limiting access to athletics and other extra-curricular activities to students in one school versus allowing these activities across two middle schools, i.e., one basketball team versus two, one cheerleading squad versus two squads, etc. Mr. Poston added that not spreading out more opportunities among 7th and 8th graders has been and continues to be a concern.

Mr. James stated it appears that in a couple of years there will have to be some new facilities built, and he would like for the information that will be shared with the Board to include information about the next cycle of when we will have to have buildings built. From a cost perspective, we need to consider if this plan will truly delay the building of a school.

Ms. Graham shared that there are currently some very serious and dire facility needs in our district, along with needing new schools. She would like to know how one would justify spending extra money for projected numbers that may or may not happen while other areas have real and serious needs that have been put off for a long time.

Mr. Garland shared that after reviewing the plans, there will be capacity problems either way. Another issue is that you would have two different school models within the same attendance area. Black Water Middle is a 6-7-8 model and at the other end of the attendance area, you would have a different school model. Should you have to adjust attendance lines, it would be difficult with two different school models within the same attendance area.

Dr. Maxey shared that there are many variables involved, and he noted that from the start, we have worked towards hiring a principal and planning based upon the fact that the Board had approved a middle school model. Although the Board can change their direction, this is the reason for the direction we have been working. Another note is that portables will have to be purchased for next year regardless of the plan that is followed because the school will not be available and we do need portables at River Oaks Elementary. Dr. Maxey added that the estimated cost that was shared is for turning the new Carolina Forest area school into an intermediate structure and does not include any retrofitting or remodeling to the existing Ocean Bay Middle School to make it an intermediate school. Mr. Wolfe shared that a middle school that is transformed to an intermediate school will require changes by way of adding a playground, retrofitting science labs, conversion of locker rooms, etc.

Dr. Maxey restated what he understood the Board to be asking, which includes to provide any cost figures that may have an impact, projected growth figures, and the projected amount of time this proposal will delay the need for building another school.

Mr. Poston asked that information be provided if there are certification challenges, staffing challenges, or programmatic challenges as far as what is available to 6th graders in this setting versus what is available to 6th graders in a middle school setting.

Mr. Garland asked that any costs associated with converting Ocean Bay Middle School to an intermediate school also be provided.

B. Proposed Attendance Lines for New Schools Opening August 2017

Mr. Joe Burch reviewed the proposed attendance line information for three of the five new schools which are planned to open in 2017-18. The plan is to share this information with the Board and then over the summer, meet with Advisory Boards, School Improvement Councils, and the public to get input on the proposals. Mr. Burch added that they hope to bring this back to the Board in late August or September for Board approval. Attendance lines need to be finalized in the early to late fall so teacher allocations can be determined. Mr. Burch stated they would like to begin meeting with the noted groups in June to get feedback unless the Board directs otherwise.

Mr. Poston asked that Board members again be given the opportunity to recommend people to serve on the naming, mascot, and color committees for the new schools, and during that process, to consider mascots and colors that will allow the transfer of uniforms from varsity to jayvee and jayvee to B-team.

Mr. DeFeo requested that discussion on the process for naming of persons to serve on the committees for naming of the schools, selection of a mascot and school colors be held at the first Board meeting in August and the appointments be made at the second meeting in August.

C. Monitoring Report: OE-12 – Learning Environment/Treatment of Students

Ms. Chestnut shared that the report has been provided. Mr. Poston asked relative to PBIS, if we know what percentage of our schools are using the PBIS system. Ms. Chestnut stated that no schools use the PBIS system as it is designed to be implemented, and are only using components of the PBIS system. Mr. Poston recommended that we change the compliance report to reflect less emphasis on PBIS if we are not utilizing it in our schools. Ms. Chestnut added that the report alludes to the use of components, mainly in developing schoolwide behaviors that they want the students to follow and the utilization of reward systems. Mr. Poston shared that he is commonly questioned if we are doing enough with our RBHS counselors and he asked for Ms. Chestnut's perspective. Ms. Chestnut stated that it is working with the students we are serving. Schools state that they need more counselors in their schools because of the need for mental health counselors. However, we are trying to get schools to understand that students who are selected to receive services from RBHS should be students with extreme emotional behaviors and not the student who seems to get in trouble for sitting next to another student in the classroom. Mr. Poston questioned if we fully fund the RBHS counseling services or if that is in part funded by other sources, such as Waccamaw Mental Health. Ms. Chestnut stated that the funding comes from Title I and General Fund. Waccamaw Mental Health does provide twelve counselors to our schools that are totally funded by Waccamaw Mental Health. Mr. Poston asked if there are plans for a staffing increase of RBHS counselors for the coming year. Ms. Chestnut stated not at this time.

D. Monitoring Report: R-6 Personal Success and Citizenship

Ms. Myrick shared that the monitoring report has been provided. Mr. Poston noted that only Carolina Forest High School is offering the, “We the People” program and is aware that in years past, Scholars Academy and possibly another high school had this program. Is the reduction in the use of this program as a result of lack of funding, lack of interest, or some other reason? Ms. Myrick responded this would be a choice of the schools and she will report this information back to the Board.

E. North Myrtle Beach High School Construction Update

Mr. Wolfe provided an update on the construction project at North Myrtle Beach High School, sharing that the project is still on schedule. Mr. Wolfe provided a handout of the timeline for this project and added that the plan is to work within the bounds of the budget that has already been approved by the Board.

F. Superintendent’s Report

Dr. Maxey shared that last week was graduation week and a time of celebration for our students and parents. We are in the process of compiling data for the class of 2015-16 regarding scholarships, etc. and will share that information with the Board when we return in August.

Also, our last groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for Wednesday, June 8, at 11:00 a.m. for the new Socastee attendance area middle school. Board members are invited to attend.

6. ADJOURN BOARD WORK SESSION AND CONVENE SPECIAL-CALLED MEETING

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Garland and seconded by Ms. Timms to adjourn the Board Work Session and to convene a Special-Called Meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

7. BUSINESS

A. Consideration of Superintendent’s Comprehensive Budget for 2016-17

Mr. Gardner stated that the 2016-17 Superintendent’s Comprehensive Budget is a total of \$806,242,160. This takes into consideration the changes that were made on May 23, 2016, at the Committee of the Whole and later received preliminary approval. Administration is seeking final approval of the Board on the 2016-17 Superintendent’s Comprehensive Budget.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Garland to approve the Superintendent’s Comprehensive Budget for 2016-17. The motion was seconded by Ms. Graham and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

B. Permission to Issue Contracts in Summer Months

Ms. Anderson stated that administration is requesting permission of the Board for the Superintendent to approve contracts throughout the summer from June 21 until the Board reconvenes on August 8, 2016, at which time we will ask the Board to ratify those contracts.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. Cox to allow the Superintendent to approve contracts from June 21 until August 8, 2016. The motion was seconded by Mr. James and carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

C. Consideration of Funding Options for Midland Elementary School and North Myrtle Beach Middle School Additions

Mr. Brown shared there is a need for additional funding to complete the minimum scope of work for the approved conceptual designs for North Myrtle Beach Middle School in the amount of \$2,160,750 and Midland Elementary School in the amount of \$5,191,887, for a total of \$7,352,637. Administration is recommending the Board approve the requested additional funds, which shall be funded from delaying the replacement of Horry County Education Center at \$4.6 million and delaying the renovation to Aynor Middle School at \$2.8 million.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Ms. Heniford to approve the additional funding as recommended. The motion carried. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

D. Consideration of Funding Options for Additional Modular Classrooms

Administration recommends approval of the purchase of twelve modular classrooms and one office area rental unit, along with associated components at an estimated cost of \$1,717,310, to be funded from residual funds from completed capital improvement projects in the amount of \$1,230,000 and unassigned General Fund Balance in the amount of \$500,000.

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James and seconded by Mr. Garland to approve the recommendation as stated. Mr. James noted that this depletes the residual funding from completed capital improvement projects. The motion carried unanimously. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

Board Action: A motion was made by Mr. James to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:

A. Personnel Recommendations as Required by Law; B. Education Fund Distribution – District 5; C. Education Fund Distribution – District 6; and D. Education Fund Distribution – District 11

The motion was seconded by Ms. Graham and the Consent Agenda items were approved as presented. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Board Action: A motion was made by Ms. Heniford and seconded by Ms. Timms to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m. The Board Chair did not cast a vote on this item.

BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT RESULTS

A summary of the responses follows.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhonda Snowden". The script is cursive and fluid.

Rhonda Snowden
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent and
Horry County Schools' Board of Education

Approved: June 20, 2016

Board Performance Indicators - II Responses

June 6, 2016

5= strongly agree, 4 = agree, 3 = neither agree nor disagree, 2 = disagree, 1 = strongly disagree

Date

Agenda

Reports are clear, well prepared and provide adequate information for decision making.

47 / 4.28

The majority of agenda items focus on our core purpose.

49 / 4.46

Meetings

Our meetings are businesslike, results-oriented and we function like a team.

46 / 4.19

Our discussions are cordial and well balanced (not dominated by just a few members.)

43 / 3.91

Community

Board members make reasonable efforts to inform themselves about education through school visits, professional meetings and outside reading.

47 / 4.28

Board members meet reasonable expectations of involvement by participating in school and other public meetings as representatives of the Board.

48 / 4.37

Board members efficiently address issues and concerns brought to them by the public.

49 / 4.46

Superintendent Relationship

The Board seeks and values the input of the Superintendent as issues are discussed and decisions are made.

49 / 4.46

Work / Policies

Board decisions are based on thoughtful analysis of available information.

46 / 4.19

Board members balance the issues of their district with the needs of the entire school district.

41 / 3.73

The Board places emphasis on building consensus among members through open and honest communication.

40 / 3.64

Comments:

1. All Board members should be given the opportunity to ask questions without being interrupted, chastised, or challenged regarding the validity of the question.
2. Board members should show respect for all members.
3. Board members need to be considerate of other Board members while they are speaking and avoid snide remarks.